

YEAR END FINALE

This issue brings to a close my fourth year as Editor-in-Chief of **CRUX with MAYHEM**. How time flies!

The Canadian Mathematical Society (CMS) is planning to identify a set of “favourite” CRUX problems from over the years. The Editorial Board of **CRUX with MAYHEM** has suggested that the readers be consulted. Consequently, I am appealing to you, our readers, to identify some of your favourite problems that have graced our pages over all the years since the inception of **Crux Mathematicorum** (or even its precursor, *Eureka*). I would appreciate receiving lists of your favourites before **February 28, 2007**.

This year we introduced a new feature, Contributor Profiles, which seems to be popular with our readers, if I am to believe the feedback I have received. We will print more profiles as time and space permit.

Some of you may have noticed a glitch in the Mayhem section of the October issue. The diagrams in the solution of M210, while understandable, did not appear as they should. This was discovered only after printing and did not appear in the proofs. We still do not know what caused the problem, but we have decided to be more diligent in future before the actual printing occurs to see that it does not happen again.

Now I want to thank the many individuals who contribute so much to **CRUX with MAYHEM**, without whose contributions the journal would certainly suffer. The first person to thank, as always, is BRUCE CROFOOT, my Associate Editor. Despite the fact that Bruce has recently married and started a family, he continues to devote much valuable time scrutinizing several drafts of each issue, section by section.

Secondly, I wish to thank SHAWN GODIN, who after six years as Mayhem Editor, is stepping down. I have enjoyed working with Shawn since I became Editor-in-Chief, and will miss his regular emails. I wish Shawn all the best in his future endeavours and want him to know that his return to the CRUX family in the future would be welcomed with open arms! JEFF HOOPER, who has been working with Shawn over the past year as Assistant Mayhem Editor, will be the new Mayhem Editor effective in the new year. Part way through this past year, we also welcomed three new people to the Mayhem family, namely MARK BREDIN, MONIKA KHBEIS, and ERIC ROBERT; their role is to determine correctness of the solutions submitted to the Mayhem problems, and to select which solution(s) is (are) to be featured for each problem.

There are many others whom I wish to thank for their particular contributions. These include ILIYA BLUSKOV, CHRIS FISHER, MARIA TORRES, EDWARD WANG, and BRUCE SHAWYER for their regular and timely service in assessing the solutions; BRUCE GILLIGAN, for ensuring that **CRUX with MAYHEM** has quality articles; JOHN GRANT McLOUGHLIN, for ensuring that we have book reviews that are appropriate to our readership; ROBERT WOODROW for overseeing the *Olympiad Corner*; and ROBERT BILINSKI, who does likewise with the *Skoliad*.

The task of providing us with timely translations of our Problems still rests on the shoulders of JEAN-MARC TERRIER and MARTIN GOLDSTEIN. I want to thank them for their efforts, and for always coming through even when I have given them very little time for turn-around. We often reword the English problem after they have translated it into French, as their translation often improves the wording of the original problem. That kind of attention to detail is more than I have a right to ask for, and I am most grateful.

I want to thank all the proofreaders. MOHAMMED AASSILA, BILL SANDS, and STAN WAGON (whom I inadvertently forgot to acknowledge last year) assist the editors with this task. The quality of the work of all these people is a vital part of what makes *CRUX with MAYHEM* what it is. Thank you, one and all.

Thanks also go to Thompson Rivers University and my colleagues in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics for their continued understanding and support. Special thanks go to SUSAN HOWIE, secretary to our department, for all that she does to give me more time to edit.

Also, the \LaTeX expertise of JOANNE CANAPE at the University of Calgary and TAO GONG at Wilfrid Laurier University is much appreciated.

Thanks to GRAHAM WRIGHT, the Managing Editor, who keeps me on the right track (and adhering to deadlines!), and to the University of Toronto Press, and TAMI EHRLICH in particular, who continue to print a high-quality product.

The online version of *CRUX with MAYHEM* continues to grow, thanks in large part to JUDI BORWEIN at Dalhousie University.

Last but not least, I send my thanks to you, the readers. Without you, *CRUX with MAYHEM* would not be possible. I would just like to point out something to both new solvers and old: Please ensure that your name and address is on EVERY problem or proposal, and that each starts on a fresh sheet of paper. Otherwise, there may be filing errors, resulting in a submitted solution or proposal being lost.

I wish everyone the compliments of the season, and a very happy, peaceful, and prosperous year 2007.

Jim Totten

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